



## **First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact - July 6, 2015**

### **FirstNet News**

- On 6/30, the FirstNet RFP team released the fourth batch of answers to questions received on the Special Notice and draft RFP documents. In all, FirstNet received 670 questions from 52 entities about the draft RFP and special notice. All documents, including a Consolidated Set of Q&As are available on the [FedBizOpps.Gov website](http://FedBizOpps.Gov).
- We're preparing for the quarterly SPOC webinar to be held this Thursday, 7/9 from 2:00-3:30 pm EDT. The previous Outlook invitation was updated with the meeting link and teleconference bridge number. Key topics include updates on the Strategic Program Roadmap, the acquisition process, the Second and Third public notices, and data collection, with a preview of SPOC engagement through the remainder of the year.
- Last week, members of the FirstNet Board and staff leadership participated in a series of activities at two major trade association annual conferences: the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) annual conference in Baltimore, MD and the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) annual conference in Denver, CO. At NSA, FirstNet Board member Richard Stanek briefed the full NSA Executive Committee on FirstNet's progress. FirstNet also hosted a symposium for conference attendees led by FirstNet Board member Richard Stanek, Acting Executive Director TJ Kennedy, Texas Department of Public Safety Assistant Director and SPOC, Todd Early, and Los Angeles Sheriffs' Department (LASD) Commander Scott Edson. At NENA, FirstNet Board Chair Sue Swenson delivered remarks to about 2,000 attendees during the general session and met separately with the NENA Executive Board. FirstNet participated in a panel discussion the next day discussing Next Generation 911 and FirstNet synergies.
- Two federal consultation meetings were held last week with the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The meeting with DOD was the first of several engagements. The FEMA Disaster Emergency Communications Division (DEC) meeting looked at public safety broadband as the natural progression of technological capabilities that DEC would potentially provide to local, state, tribal and federal agencies for communications restoration post-disaster. In addition to the consultation meetings, the FirstNet team also had an opportunity to meet with the DHS Office of State and Local Law Enforcement, Assistant Secretary Heather Fong to provide an update on FirstNet.

- This week FirstNet will be in North Dakota on 7/9 for the initial state consultation meeting. Thirty-seven consultation meetings have been held to date involving more than 2,000 public safety representatives. There are 17 initial state consultation meetings scheduled for later this year. Confirmed upcoming initial consultation meetings are: North Dakota (7/9), Illinois (7/14), Alabama (7/15), Georgia (7/21), Tennessee (7/23), California (7/28-29), Pennsylvania (8/4), Hawaii (8/11-12), American Samoa (8/13-14), Indiana (8/26), Michigan (9/1), New Jersey (9/3), Alaska (9/9), Arizona (9/15), Oklahoma (10/7), CNMI (10/20), and Guam (10/22). An updated schedule can be viewed on the [website tracker](#).

### **News from the States, Territories, and PSAC Associations**

- There are now 567 federally recognized tribes. Following a decades long effort, the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs announced Thursday that the Pamunkey tribe's quest for recognition has been approved, making the tribe of Pocahontas the first in Virginia to receive the coveted designation. Six other Virginia tribes are seeking recognition through an act of Congress. Read more from the Washington Post story [here](#).
- The state of Maine has launched a new [website](#) for education and outreach.

### **Media Watch**

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### *Traditional Media*

This week's media coverage focused heavily on the NENA conference in Denver, with stories about the need for coordination and interconnectivity between NG-911 systems and the FirstNet network. In addition, there were some stories about state planning for FirstNet and the release of more responses to questions on the draft RFP.

### **Maine's FirstNet Program Launches a New Educational Website**

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/maines-firstnet-program-launches-a-new-educational-website-2015-06-26>

FirstNetME, a statewide program focused on preparing Maine for the design, deployment and operation of the nation's first dedicated high-speed wireless broadband network for public safety, is pleased to announce the launch of their new website.

### **TR Daily: FirstNet Releases More Draft RFP Answers**

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) today released the third batch of answers to questions concerning the draft request for proposals (RFP) and special notice it released in April (TRDaily, April 27). Today's tranche included answers to questions 283 through 516. In all, FirstNet received 670 questions from 52 entities about the draft RFP and special notice, including in writing and during an industry day held last month (TRDaily, May 14). As with the first two batches that were released, the questions for FirstNet publicized today were all over the map in terms of information that parties were seeking, including questions about the number of expected public safety users, the leasing of excess capacity, payments to or from FirstNet, most-favored pricing, opt-out of states, and a competitive market for services.

### *Web and Social Media*

The FirstNet social media communications channels continue to grow steadily. The FirstNet Twitter account now has 2,386 followers; LinkedIn 799 users; Google+ 48 users; and YouTube 128 subscribers. Twitter followers saw the most growth from last week. FirstNet [published a blog](#) about the CTO team's work on the "Z axis" issue for first responders. This blog was picked up and developed into two news stories (*FierceWireless* and *Communications Daily*) and received considerable attention over social media (notably Twitter and LinkedIn).